

THE CALCUTTA JOURNAL,

OF

Politics and General Literature.

VOL. I.]

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1822

[No. 45]

MISCELLANEOUS.

—529—

General Summary.

The GLASGOW Frigate it appears may yet have many a league to traverse, before she reaches the haven of her destination. We have heard (though it scarcely appears credible) that one whose age and understanding are worthy of higher objects, gave currency to the report of her Arrival in the River, merely to indulge an unaccountable propensity by playing off a trick or *hoax*, as it is called, on the confidence of a friend.

When those whom we honor and esteem make any assertion, we do not ask for proof, and the blindest credulity is then but the strongest assurance of our reliance on their unimpeachable veracity. If one for whom we have no esteem, should tell us something highly improbable, and our belief betrayed an ignorance of that which it behoves all well-informed persons to know, there might be some wit in *hoaxing*, as it tends to make those imposed on expose their ignorance and look ridiculous. If this deserves the name of wit, (which we are disposed to doubt), it is however, that of the lowest and most malicious description, and wholly unworthy of a high or generous mind. But when that which is told is *highly probable*, we are really at a loss to discover any thing but folly in indulging a belief that it is witty to make any man believe it. A Cockney might as well suppose it clever to make a person believe he was born in Cheapside when the truth was he was born in Cornhill, or a Watchman in persuading a person that it was 12 o'clock, while it was only eleven.

Such *hoaxes* as these are superlatively stupid, though, if involving no immediate consequences, they may be considered innocent. But this *hoax* of the GLASGOW's arrival appears to have been as cruel as it was stupid, and was certainly one of the most ill-judged imaginable, as it was sure to be detected within 24 hours at farthest, and the detection necessarily made public, as it related to a public event in which every Englishman in India who maintains a Correspondence with his native country must be strongly interested.

It is said—(but we again observe that it appears to us scarcely credible)—that a Letter was fabricated, purporting to have come up from the GLASGOW, and to have been written by one of the Officers of that Ship to a Gentleman in Calcutta, stating that his Lady was on board, who could not herself address her husband because of an accident which deprived her of the use of her hand, and requesting his immediate presence. This joke was not calculated to make *him* laugh at least, and we know not how any one else could enjoy that which must have given pain to others. Such was the confidence given by every one, however, to this report, that the Houses of Agency, the Editors of the Papers, and all those who are most deeply interested in the arrival of Ships from home, gave implicit credit to the story. An Express was sent off for the Dispatches that might have been on board for the Admiral, and in short more serious speculations may have been made in the mercantile world, involving property as well as credit, for aught we know.

The Kedgerie Report arrived on the following morning, perfectly blank, and the whole of yesterday was passed in a contest between the Believers and Unbelievers, while a hundred different editions of the *hoax* got into active circulation, and were all

thought equally clever by some and equally silly by others. We remember not long since that some bright Genius thought it an excellent *hoax* to persuade some of the enlightened inhabitants of Calcutta, that the notorious Journalist had Four Wives in the Four different quarters of the globe! Some really believed it, and thought the said Journalist a Monster; others who looked on this sin in a less heinous light, thought that he must only be four times as happy or as miserable as his neighbours, according to the quality of the Members of this Quintuple and Unholy Alliance: but at length the *hoax* (as it *must* have been meant, tho' some think it had a deeper aim than merely *hoaxing*) reached the ears of the only being whom it *might* have made superlatively miserable, tho' these were fortunately the most invulnerable of all others in the world to any thing that could really dishonor the object of this defamation.

In the present case also (if the story of the broken arm be as it is related, which we really must continue to doubt), though the joke might have been amusement to some, it might equally have produced misery to others; but we must end as we began, by expressing our doubt of the whole matter, though we think it as much our duty to give the rumours that are abroad when they relate to public matters, as to abstain from them when they have no influence beyond the circle of domestic life. We hope that if these rumours are unfounded, the parties who may consider themselves alluded to herein, will enable us to contradict them, which we shall be still more ready to do than we have been to give them form and currency as we have received them from others.

We have since learnt that the Gentleman whose natural and honorable confidence was thus imposed on by this *hoax* has actually proceeded down the River to meet his expectant Lady, to bid her welcome, and relieve her anxiety respecting himself. What if the melancholy fate of Captain Lindsay and Doctor Morrison, who very recently went down to meet a Wife and Daughter, and were drowned in the attempt, were to be the portion of this deceived Individual also, and the Lady on her real arrival were to find herself a Widow! Would the ingenuity or the wit of the *hoax* which induced him to undertake the voyage, help to dry the tears of the disconsolate being who might thus find herself the victim of a senseless and unfeeling joke? That such an accident should happen is not very likely; but it is still within the range of possibility; and a feeling heart would not risk the safety of a hair to indulge in mere pleasantry. But, accident apart, are there no less sacred feelings than those of wedded life to sport and tamper with, at the will and caprice of those who despise perhaps what they can never experience? and can it be a matter of merriment to witness a Husband's disappointment followed up by conjectures of accident, ship-wreck, death, or a hundred other phantoms that assail the ardent and warm imagination, when the Hope that is deferred has made the heart sick? All this may appear to many as attaching too much consequence to a *hoax*; but we know there are others who will feel with us that a *hoax* on the public credulity is justly deserving of public reprehension. It is on this ground alone that we notice it at all; but having noticed it, we must say that a more silly, a more senseless, or a more ill-judged joke than this, it has never fallen to our lot to hear spoken of, among any class of persons, or in any quarter of the world.

Lima Gazette.

ABOLITION OF THE SPANISH CONSTITUTION.

(Translated for the Calcutta Journal.)

All the laws that have not been not abrogated subsisting hitherto in full vigor, and the regime prescribed by the Constitution of Spain being incompatible with the high destinies of Peru, and with the universal will, strongly manifested, although people have been forced to swear to that regime for the purpose of enslaving them by the shadow of laws calculated to give happiness to one small corner of Europe, at the expence of the New World; it is resolved that the Constitution of Spain, be abolished in all its parts; and the acts of recognition which exist in all the tribunals, and corporations of the State of Peru, shall be rescinded from the books in which they were inserted, and transmitted immediately to the Minister of Government; hoping from the Patriotism which all have displayed that they will hasten to observe the most punctual compliance with this resolution.

Let this be printed and circulated.

Lima Aug. 9, 1821.

SAN MARTIN.

2d year of Peruvian Liberty.

BERNARDO MONTEAGUDO.

EDICTS,

Don Manuel Alvarado, Colonel of the Indian Fajineros, and the other Officers of the said Corps having come forward and sworn to defend the sacred cause of their Country, to the last drop of their blood, the same was accepted and ordered to be published in the GACETA DEL GOBIERNO.

ABOLITION OF SLAVERY.

When humanity has been deeply outraged, and its rights for a long time violated, it is a great act of justice, if not complete indemnification, at least to take the first steps towards a fulfilment of the most sacred of all duties. A great portion of our species have been hitherto regarded as an exchangeable commodity, and subject to the calculations of criminal traffic: men have bought men, and they have not been ashamed to degrade the family to which they belong by selling one another! The institutions of barbarous ages supported by long usage have established the right of property, in opposition to the more august right which nature had granted. I nevertheless, do not propose to destroy with one blow this ancient abuse. It is fit that as time has established it, time also should destroy it. But I should wrong both my public sense of duty and my private sentiments, if I were not to pave the way for the success of that pious reform, conciliating the interest of the proprietors with the dictates of reason and of nature. With this view I make the following declaration:—

1. All the sons of slaves who have been born and may be born in the territory of Peru, from the 28th of July of the present year, in which its Independence was declared, comprehending those departments which are occupied by the Enemy's forces and belonging to this state, shall be free, and enjoy the same rights as other Peruvian citizens under the modifications expressed in a separate Regulation.

2. The Certificate of Baptism of those born, will be an authentic document for the recovery of this right.

Let this be printed, published, and circulated by authority.

Lima, August 12, 1821.

SAN MARTIN.

2d year of the Liberty of Peru.

BERNARDO MONTEAGUDO.

To His Excellency the Supreme Protector of the Free Departments of Peru.

I ought to inform your Excellency that although the troops of the Liberating Army have behaved themselves with every bravery, going up even to the entrenchments of the Enemy's fortification, Real Felipe, the result has not been conformable to the plan laid down and arranged by the Chiefs of the Corps before the attack; because, finding the gate of the port-cullin shut, they saw themselves under the necessity of returning, in compliance with my instructions for such an accident, and which I send to our Excellency herewith (No. 1.)

Our loss, as your Excellency will perceive by the document No. 2 is inconsiderable, especially if compared with that of the Enemy, who have lost the whole Guard of 12 men and an Officer who were posted on the Oval, a Captain and a Subaltern who could not escape the gate, many peasants, and even Officers who are of the population of Callao, and General Ricafort, who being taken prisoner by Paysano Don Juan Castro in the Custom House, in passing before the fortification of San Miguel, darted behind the said Castro with the intention of making his escape, and he killed him.

I cannot praise sufficiently to your Excellency, the behaviour of all the Chiefs, Officers, and Troops who composed the Division of attack: they marched up to danger with the steadiness and firmness of heroes, and nothing but the incident already mentioned could have deprived them of the glory of which they are so justly deserving.

God preserve your Excellency many years.

JUAN GREGORIA DE LAS HERAS.

Hacienda de Baquijana, Aug. 14, 1821.

Order of the 15th of August, 1821.

The Troops of the Liberating Army, who yesterday attacked the Fortress of Real Felipe have maintained the honor of the Army: every Soldier shall receive a present of two piastres, every Corporal three, and every Sergeant four, as many as were engaged in it.

SAN MARTIN.

The loss of the Enemy in this action is stated to be 4 Officers killed, and 1 made prisoner; and 12 Men killed, 18 made prisoners, and 6 wounded,—total loss 36.

The loss of the Liberating Army in the attack on Callao is stated at 10 Men missing and 17 wounded.

Gaceta del Gobierno de Lima Independiente, Aug. 18, 1821.

This Paper commences with a Proclamation, proposing to form a Corps which should serve as a pattern to the rest by its valour in battle and by its discipline in all circumstances. This Legion, to be named the Peruvian Legion of Defence, is to be composed of a Battalion of Infantry, two Squadrons of Cavalry, and a Company of flying Artillery. It is to be commanded by Field Marshall Torre-Tagle, and under him Colonel William Miller. Then follows this Proclamation.

The Protector of the Liberty of Peru &c.

The time has arrived when through choice as well as through necessity, every Peruvian is a soldier: but their enthusiasm and courage would be of little avail unless they acted under a uniform plan of organisation, which supply the advantages of the rigorous discipline observed in troops of the line, to which all the brave cannot pretend. With this view, and considering the important services and devotion to the Common Cause, of Field Marshall, the Marquess of Torre-Tagle, it has been resolved to appoint him Inspector General of all the Civic Corps of Infantry, Cavalry, and Artillery, formed and to be formed in the free departments of Peru, to the effect that under his direction the Country may reckon with the number of Soldiers how many men have been born and live to be witnesses of its splendor and Liberty.

Lima, Aug. 18, 1821.

SAN MARTIN,

2d year of the Liberty of Peru.

BERNARDO MONTEAGUDO,

Gaceta Extraordinaria del Gobierno de Lima Independiente, Aug. 21; 1821.

VENEZUELA.

The year 21 seems destined by Providence for the glorious termination of the evils of the continent of America. The heroic capital of Venezuela and the port of Guayra have been occupied by the champions of Liberty, by those dauntless warriors whose fortitude and bravery could not be subdued by Spanish ferocity nor even by the storms of convulsed nature. We count five Capital Cities from the Isthmus of Panama to Tierra del Fuego, and all these five now breathe the salubrious air of Freedom! Will the Cabinet of Madrid still delude itself with the vain hope of subduing us!

Last Parliamentary Session.

The great question of REFORM has been more than usually shirked this Session; indeed it seems to be shunned in the House just in proportion as, aided by the daily development of the Pitt System, it is making progress out of it among the middling and upper ranks of society. Mr. LAMBTON's motion for a Committee to inquire into a subject uppermost in the minds of the great bulk of the English People, was received by empty benches on the Treasury side, until the time came when the majority was to be "whipped in" to negative it. Oh brave "Virtual Representation!" In recalling, however, what has passed in Parliament on this topic, we by no means intend to repeat the great arguments in its favour. Our object is to say a few words on a more particular and very praiseworthy attempt of Mr. BENNET, to shame the Government out of the practice of keeping in the People's House a band of subordinate colleagues and official dependents, to support every measure of Administration. Mr. BENNET proposed to exclude from the House those placeholders whose presence in Parliament is not required, for purposes of official information. With the heads of departments he did not desire to meddle; his motion affected only the junior Lords of the Treasury and Admiralty, the Under-Secretaries of Departments and Boards, &c. This was an attempt which Ministers were compelled to meet, at all events; and Mr. F. ROBINSON was candid enough, in reply, to avow at once the principle of the practice, —namely, the assumed necessity that every Minister should have a certain regular support in the House of Commons, to enable him to give consistency to his measures. And why was this necessity? Because "it is impossible," as the Right Hon. Gentleman contends, "that any Government can be conducted on mere abstract principles of right and wrong." The word "abstract" used here is merely an oratorical flourish; for what less abstract than the great majority of Parliamentary questions,—the imposition of taxes—the granting of supplies—making of war and peace, &c. But let that pass. The Government, it is asserted, in addition to all the influence exercised upon the House of Commons, by its enormous patronage in Church and State, in the Army, the Navy, and the Colonies,—requires a certain number of regular official votes. In other words, it requires a number of office-holders, who will vote for every measure of every existing Administration, right or wrong. This is explicit enough at the least, and we thank Mr. ROBINSON for his candour. We would only suggest, that if such yea-and-nay support is necessary, there are ways of getting it less offensive to common sense and popular spirit, than that of creating it among the gentlemen called by courtesy Representatives of the People. For instance, let us suppose, that every Member of the Cabinet were allowed to introduce three of his livery servants into the House of Commons merely to vote. This would give the required support in the most simple and complete manner; while the People would be spared the mockery and insult of having men called their Representatives, who act the part of livery servants to the Crown, as notoriously as Lord LONDONDERRY's footmen do to their master.

Dr. FRANKLIN, one of the most sound-headed reasoners that ever lived, felt so strongly the mischief of these train-bands in Parliament; that he was inclined to consider their exclusion as a measure preferable even to a general Reform. We do not assent to that opinion; but we feel in common with the American Philosopher, that it is an enormity which stares one in the face more hideously than any other existing abuse; and as such, that the Reformers should make it one of their most prominent points of attack. Let us examine the alleged necessity for the practice a little more closely. Mr. F. ROBINSON is obliged to assume, that the Representative Assembly, without this ballast of placemen, would be so driven to and fro by the changes of public opinion that no course of ministerial measures could be consistently pursued. Now if that course of measures is not conformable to the opinions and wishes of the People and the Parliament, it ought not to be pursued;—if it is, why impute inconsistency to those bodies. Is public opinion a thing so easily swayed, particularly among the phlegmatic nations of the North? The question does not concern the opinions of a casual street-assemblage, liable to be influenced by sudden impulses, and individually unknown and irresponsible; but of a body men, selected for their talent or trust-worthiness to represent the people at large—a body, the leading members of which are publicly known as the holders of certain opinions—and the deliberate forms of which necessarily shut out transient heats and impulses. Can it be imagined, that a majority of such a House of Commons would not be true to its own professed principles? Or if the imagination can barely conceive such want of steadiness and consistency, what remedy can be provided for the fickleness of a whole people? Would it be, to put a great portion of power in the hands of few who always gain by the deception and robbery of the many? Just such a remedy would it be, to put an estate, concerning which there were some trifling disputes, into the hands of a lawyer whose interest would lead him to increase the litigation. Just as philosophy, for a man to put a pistol to his head, in order to escape the ordinary rubs of life!

The fallacy of this sophistry originates in the assumption, that there is a necessity for the Parliamentary adoption of any ministerial plans; and it shews how much our constitutional jealousy is weakened, that a Minister can venture to talk in a style so repugnant to common sense and the maxims of a free government. It has been so long the practice for Ministers to controul the Parliament that they have got into a habit of considering themselves a kind of fourth state, sharing with the Parliament the prerogative of imposing taxes and making laws. The words Legislature and Executive have lost their original meaning; and we actually hear it coolly argued, that the Ministers of the Chief Magistrate must have a fixed party in the Legislature! But the fact is, that the Ministry should have no schemes of their exclusive and uncontrolled framing. They are merely to execute the resolves of the Legislature,—not to exert influence in forming them. They are to ask supplies from, and afford information to, the People's Representatives. Let them conduct themselves with good faith, and ask only what is moderate and rational; and our human feelings assure us, that they need fear neither censure nor refusal from what should be in truth the "collective wisdom" of the British Nation.

He who the public good intends,
By bribes needs never purchase friends;
Who acts this just, this honest part,
Is propt by every honest heart.

Moore's Melodies.

ROLL'S COURT, DUBLIN, JULY 24 AND 25, 1831.

J. POWER V. W. POWER.

On the 3d of July, James Power, of the Strand, London, music-seller, obtained an injunction to restrain William Power, of Westmorland-street, Dublin, from publishing a pirated edition of the Eighth Number of Moore's Irish Melodies; the said James Power having the sole property in the above-mentioned work by deed of assignment from Thomas Moore, Esq. the author. On the 17th July, Mr. O'Connell, on behalf of W. Power, moved the Court to dissolve the injunction.

The decision of the Court was, that the injunction should remain undisturbed till the cause was argued.

This important case came on yesterday (July 30) and the day before to be argued on its merits, before his Honour the Master of the Rolls.

It appeared from the statement of the Counsel on the side of the plaintiff, that he had entered into an engagement with Mr. Moore in the year 1811, for a period of seven years, the latter covenanting to supply the former with one number of Irish Melodies and certain other works specified, for the consideration of an annuity of 500*l.*, which was to be paid him by plaintiff. In 1812, plaintiff entered into an agreement by deed with defendant, by which he gave him the license of publishing Moore's Works in Ireland solely, in consideration of defendant's paying him 2-5ths of said annuity; said deed to be considered null and void whenever the defendant should fail to pay his quota of annuity to plaintiff. On the expiration of the seven years, after some time plaintiff entered into a new agreement with Mr. Moore for a further term of six years, under which agreement, and in this present year, the 8th number of the Melodies, which forms the subject under litigation, was delivered by Mr. Moore to plaintiff, and by him published as his sole property, which appeared by deed of assignment as well as by the regular deed of agreement. The defence set up by W. Power was, that he in fact was the sole proprietor of all Moore's Melodies, and that plaintiff had no right to publish them even in England, without his concurrence and approbation, but he totally failed in shewing any written document whatever in support of his assertion.

His case was ably argued by Messrs. JOY, O'CONNELL, and BENNETT, who displayed much ingenuity, by arguing on the assertions of the Solicitor upon facts which were not contained in the pleadings.

The plaintiff's case was argued with great clearness and talent, by the SOLICITOR GENERAL, Mr. PLUNKETT, and Mr ADAIR.

The MASTER of the ROLLS, in giving his decision, said, that the defendant had set up two defences, neither of which were tenable. The plaintiff had established his title by the production of the assignment from Mr. Moore, in whom the property was vested, from his having written the work himself; it would be very injurious to copyright of literary productions, if an injunction should be withheld from the plaintiff, who claims his right by virtue of such deed, when the defendant has no written document to substantiate his claim, nor is there a word of the existence of such document sworn to or set forth in the pleadings; he concluded by saying, that he would give an order that the injunction obtained by Mr. James Power in this case should stand unmoved, till the defendant should show any legal title to the work before a Court of Law.

SUSPENSION OF POLITICAL FEUDS IN IRELAND DURING
THE ROYAL VISIT.

CREDAT JUDÆUS APPELLA.

When CANUTE bade the waves be still,
He vainly gave command;
The stubborn surges scorn'd his will,
And fiercer lash'd the land
But GEORGE's name can do much more,
If party conflicts cease,
When he has trod the Irish shore.
Which never yet had peace.

ON THE MOVING BOGS.

Can the "Emerald Isle" ne'er be quiet?
Has fate made disturbance her portion?
For now that her sons cease to riot,
Her bogs make intestine commotion?

Moving Bog.

REPORT RELATIVE TO THE MOVING BOG OF KILMALEADY,
IN THE KING'S COUNTY.

MADE BY ORDER OF THE ROYAL DUBLIN SOCIETY.

To Buknal M'Carthy, Esq. &c. &c.

SIR,

In compliance with the request of the Royal Dublin Society, conveyed to me by your letter of the 12th July, I have visited the Moving Bog of Kilmaleady; and finding on my return to Dublin to-day, that very erroneous notions, respecting its magnitude and destructive effects, has been entertained, I think it my duty immediately to communicate to you, for the information of the Society, some account of the nature and extent of this once alarming phenomenon.

The bog of Kilmaleady, from whence the eruption broke out, situated about two miles to the north of the village of Clara, in the King's County, is of considerable extent; it may probably contain about 500 acres: in many parts it is 40 feet in depth, and it is considered to be the wettest bog in the country. It is bounded on all sides, except the south, by steep ridges of high land, which are composed, at the top, of limestone gravel, and beneath of cavernous limestone rock, containing subterranean streams; but the southern face of the bog is open to a moory valley, about a quarter of a mile in breadth, which for nearly half a mile in length, takes a southern direction in the lands of Lisanisky, and then turns at right angles to the west, and continues gradually widening for upwards of two miles. Through the centre of this valley flows a stream of about 12 feet in breadth, which serves as a discharge for the waters from the bog and the surrounding country, and finally joins the river Brusna above the bridge of Ballynamber.

The bog of Kilmaleady, like all other deep and wet bogs, is composed for the first eight or ten feet from the surface downward, of a reddish-brown spongy mass, formed of the still undecomposed fibres of the bog moss, *sphagnum palustre*, which, by capillary attraction, absorbs water in great quantity. Beneath this fibrous mass, the bog gradually becomes pulpy, till, at length, towards the bottom, it assumes the appearance, and, when examined, the consistence of a black mud, rather heavier than water.

The surface of the bog of Kilmaleady was elevated upwards of twenty feet above the level of the valley, from which it rose at a very steep angle; and its external face, owing to the uncommon dryness of the season, being much firmer than usual, the inhabitants of the vicinity were enabled to sink their turf holes, and cut turf at the depth of at least ten feet beneath the surface of the valley. and, in fact, until they reached the blue clay which forms the substratum of the bog. Thus, the faces of many of the turf banks reached the unusual height of 30 feet perpendicular; when, at length, on the 19th day of June, the lower pulpy and muddy part of the bog, which possessed little cohesion, being unable to resist the great pressure of water from behind, gave way, and being once set in motion, floated the upper part of the bog, and continued to move with astonishing velocity along the valley to the southward, forcing before it not only the clumps of turf on the edge of the bog, but even patches of the moory meadows, to the depth of several feet, the grass surface of which heaved and turned over almost like the waves of the ocean; so that in very short space of time the whole valley, for the breadth or about a quarter of a mile between the bog edge and the base of the hill Lisanisky, was covered with bog to the depth of from eight to ten feet, and appeared every where studded with green patches of moory meadow.

The hill of Lisanisky retarded the progress of the bog for some time; at length it began to flow at right angles in its first course along the valley, where it turns to the west, and continued with unabated rapidity till it reached the bog road of Kilbride (which runs directly across the valley, and is elevated five or six feet above it), and choked up the bridge through which the waters of the stream pass. This barrier retarded the progress of the bog for five days: at the end of that time the accumulation was such, from the still moving bog and the waters of the stream, that it flowed over the road and covered the valley to the south of it for about half a mile, flowing with varied velocity, till it was again stopped for a few hours, as I understand by a second road across the valley, leading from Clara to Woodfield. Having also overcome this obstacle, it proceeded slowly westward, and if its progress had not been checked by the very judicious means that have been employed, the whole extent of the valuable meadows, which compose the valley where it expands to the westward, must long since have been covered. But when the bog had passed over the road of Kilbride, and the consternation in the country became general, at the desire of the Lords Justices, Mr. Gregory employed Mr. Killaly, Engineer to the Directors General of Inland Navigation, to carry into execution any works that could be devised to arrest the progress of the bog. Mr. Killaly at once perceived, that the only feasible remedy was to draw off the water that had accumulated; and to accomplish this end, he employed a number of labourers to open the course of the stream where it was choked up, and also the drains through the valley that could be directed into the stream. By this means the head of the water was soon lowered, and in consequence the bog ceased to flow—and all the loose masses which floated on the river were broken to pieces by labourers placed at intervals throughout its course.

Such was the situation of affairs on my arrival at the bog early on Saturday morning. During the course of the day I exerted myself to carry into execution the well-advised plan which had previously been commenced by Mr. Killaly. Towards evening the floating masses which came down the river, began to lessen considerably both in size and number; and, finding every thing proceeded with regularity and certainty, I thought it useless to remain longer.

At present I entertain no apprehension of further devastation from the bog, except in the event of a very great fall of rain during the present week. Slight rains would be of service to increase the current of water, and facilitate the removal of a considerable deposit of heavy, black, bog mud, which at present fills the bottom of the stream. The general current has, however, been much increased by the breaking down of the weirs on the river Brusna, below the junction of the bog river.

I shall now describe the present appearance and state of the bog and moory valley.

In the centre of the bog, for the space of about a mile and a half in length, and a quarter of a mile in breadth, a valley has been formed, sloping at the bottom from the original surface of the bog, to the depth of 30 feet, where the eruption first took place. In this valley or gulf, there are numberless concentric cuts, or fissures, filled with water nearly to the top.

The valley between the edge of the bog and the road of Kilbride, for the length of half a mile, and an extent of between 60 and 80 acres, may be considered as totally destroyed. It is covered by tolerably firm bog, from six to ten feet in depth, consisting at the surface of numberless green islands, composed of detached parts of the moory meadows, and of small rounded patches of the original heathy surface of the bog, varying from two to ten feet in diameter, which are separated from each other by brown pulpy bog, and the bed of the original stream is elevated to about eight or ten feet above its former course, so as to flow over the road.

Beyond the road to Kilbride the bog has flowed for one mile westward, and covered from fifty to seventy acres; in this part the patches of bog generally lessen in quantity; the green islands disappear, and nothing is observed but a thin deposit, consisting of a granulated black bog mud, varying from one to three feet in thickness. This, though destructive for the present year, may, when dry, be burnt, and removed for manure to the neighbouring uplands, or be left on the spot to fertilize the valley.

Thus the whole distance which the bog has flowed is about three miles in length, namely, one mile and a half in the bog, and the same distance over the moory valley; and the extent covered amounts to about 150 acres.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

Royal Dublin Society }
House, July 16, 1821. }

RICHARD GRIFFITH, Mining Engineer.



ASIATIC DEPARTMENT.

—533—

Armenian Press.

A BRIEF ACCOUNT OF THE ARMENIAN PRESS.

Drawn up by an Armenian Gentleman, for the Calcutta Journal.

In the year 1567, the use of the Press began first amongst the Armenians. It has been established in many cities; but in most cases, after continuing in operation a short time, it has, owing to some cause or other, been abolished. It is permanently established in Constantinople and Venice; (1) and at present there are Printing Offices in Paris, Vienna, and Saint Petersburg, which are all in constant employment.

In India the exercise of the Armenian Press began first at Madras, and there it has undergone many changes. The Rev. Tir Arratoon Shamavon of that place, kept it going for many years, and printed off a great number of Books; but at present the Presses of that Presidency are all abolished.

In Calcutta a Printing-Office was first established by the Rev. Tir Joseph Stephanuse, who acted as Editor for a time, and printed a few Books. It was afterwards sold. Mr. Gentloom Aviet succeeded to the Rev. Tir Joseph Stephanuse. He also printed some Books, but at present nothing is done at his Printing-Office. In the year 1819, Pogose Vardapan, Esq. of Madras had a Printing Office, which he made a present of to the (2) Aid-spreading Society of Bombay; but on account of there being but few Armenians at Bombay, this Society afterwards thought proper to establish this Press at Calcutta, in conjunction with the (3) Literary Society of the same place. It is now employed under the management of the said Society.

Occurrences relating to the Press at Calcutta.

In the year 1820, on the 29th of July, a Prospectus was issued by the Literary Society, announcing to the Public their intention of establishing a Weekly Journal, to be entitled "THE CALCUTTA MIRROR." Owing to several circumstances, which a Free Press is liable to produce, and to the mass of intolerable abuse, which were poured out upon its Conductors, (who were then Messrs. Mackertich, A. Aganoor, and John Avdall), the circulation of that Paper was but of a short duration. Scarcely was the Publication three months old, when the Conductors were secretly dogged through the public streets with fencing sticks, and clubs. Discord also broke out now and then between some of the different families of the community, by which the circulation of the Paper was greatly injured. On account of these quarrels, the number of Subscribers to the Press was diminished by one half; and at last, encountering so many obstacles, the circulation of the Paper was unavoidably stopped.

(1) In Venice, at the Island of Saint Lazarus, there is an Armenian Society established, the members of which are all Ecclesiastical persons, and of the Roman Catholic persuasion. It was founded in the year 1712, by Mackythar Sabastyan, and the object of it is to subject the Armenian Church to the Church of Rome. Many books have been printed by this Society, some of which are the works of our Ancestors, some translations from European languages, and some written by themselves. The type they at present use is preferable to that of any other Armenian books in print.

(2) In the year 1815 a Society was established at Bombay, entitled "Ochanaspour" or "Aid-spreading." The object of this was to preserve the adherence of the Armenian community to their own Church, and to promote knowledge and science by printing useful books, either original compositions or translations, and distributing them gratuitously amongst the community. They have now many works on hand ready for publication; but owing to the insufficiency of means, they remain unprinted.

The following are the Members of the Society:—

MARCUS JOSEPH, Chairman, LUKAS JOSEPH, MARTIN MACKERTICH, MATHEW JOSEPH, CARAPIT CHATOOR.

(3) In the year 1818, a Society was established in Calcutta, entitled "Imantakundir" or the "Literary Society." Their object is the same as that of the Society at Bombay. Two Books have been translated from the English and already printed by this Society; and they have on hand

After the discontinuance of the Paper, (4) Mr. Avdall's "Aunkidaz Aunpet" was put to the Press, on account of which the Opponents of the Press began to pour forth a great deal of their malicious venom. After the edition of the above Book, was thrown off, Dr. Gregory's Legacy was begun to be printed, it having been translated into Armenian by the late (5) Mr. Mackertich A. Aganoor. Neither was this beautiful Tract exempt from misrepresentation and abuse. As the Opponents of the Press were daily increasing in number, and every possible effort making by them to overthrow the Printing-Office Establishment, the Rev. Deacon, (6) Mr. Martin Mackertich began to publish several Satirical Poems, in order to check their audacity, and put a stop to their spiteful machinations. After the embarkation of Mr. Mackertich on the ALEXANDER to the Persian Gulph, their hostility was carried so far, that the Conductors were on the point of shutting up the Printing-Office. But Mr. Mackertich unexpectedly returning from Sea, and observing the state of affairs, he published a Pamphlet, containing an Appeal to the Community at large, whereby he crushed in a great degree their malicious efforts.

After the publication of this Address, Mr. Mackertich's Comedy was put to the Press. It is entitled "The Physiognomist of Treachery," and is divided into four Acts, containing about 500 verses in Poetry. On the publication of this piece, the Conductor of the Press was attacked in a most unmanly manner, on a Sunday morning after Divine Service at the church gate; upon which a fighting match took place between him and his aggressor. The adversaries of the Press also gave it to be understood, that on the republication of similar Pamphlets, worse treatment might be expected.

Observing that the audacious opposition of his adversaries was not likely to cease, he resigned his charge to another person who took upon himself the Editorship of the Press. The latter was also most grossly insulted in the Church; his stole and the incense-pan were snatched away from his hand. This being contrary to the Laws of the Armenian Church, he now absents himself from Divine Service, until he can obtain legal satisfaction.

The present condition of the Armenian Press in Calcutta may be told in a few words. Very few Subscribers remain; but still the business is going on; and a periodical Magazine is begun to be published, which is now distributed gratuitously amongst the Community.

many works ready for publication. The Members of this Society are as follows:—

MACKERTICH A. AGANOOR, Chairman, LAZUR AGABEG, JOHN AVDALL, SARKIS J. SARKIS.

(4) Mr. John Avdall is 19 years of age, and was born at Shiranz, in Persia. He was sent by his parents to Mr. Arratoon Kalooss's School, at Calcutta, where he received instruction in the Armenian and English languages. The "Aunkidaz Aunpet" (which signifies "useless to those who are stupid") is therefore dedicated to Mr. Kalooss. This Book is compiled and translated from the Elegant Extracts, and abound chiefly with portions of the beautiful writings of Addison, Johnson, Blair, &c. It contains about 314 quarto pages, and a brief biographical sketch of the authors is attached to it.

(5) Mr. Mackertich A. Aganoor was a Native of Bussorah, and educated at Bombay in the Armenian and English languages. He died on the 29th March last, in the 24th year of his age. His translation of Gregory's Legacy is dedicated to his Sister-in-law, Mrs. Agabeg. This unfortunate young man did not live to see his translation out of the press.

(6) The Rev. Mr. Martin Mackertich was born at Shiranz, and was instructed in Armenian at Bombay. He is the first Author who has composed and published a Dramatic Work amongst the Armenians. An Armenian Gentleman at Madras also composed a Comedy, but from some cause or other he has not published it. A Comedy was also written by the Aid-spreading Society of Bombay, where it was acted three times. A copy of this was delivered to Mr. Mackertich that he might make in it whatever improvements he should think necessary, and have it printed; and it is now ready for publication. The Armenian Press at Calcutta being at present under his superintendence, he is writing a general Critique on this Comedy, divided into three parts, two of which are already printed and the third is in the press.

Snake Catchers.

SIR,

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

By way of Addenda to my former Communication on the subject of *Bis*, I hand you the following remarks, comprizing a relation of the method by which the Tribe of Snake Catchers, with scarcely any risk of danger to themselves, take the most venomous of the species; and as I write as an *Eye-witness*, I trust that the narration will not be rejected on the score of improbability.

The constant demand for the poison of the Gokura Snake is not the only inducement to the Saumperahs (Snake-Catchers,) for them to devote much of their time in the taking of them; since their flesh is much used by some European Practitioners in the preparation of medicine, but of what kind my inquiries upon the subject have not enabled me to ascertain. Nevertheless I am inclined to suppose, that a vinous decoction of their flesh (similar to that of the *Vipera Vinum* of the Old Dispensatories) is prepared either as a remedy for virile impotency, or as a grand restorative in cases of extreme debility or prostration of strength. This information I obtained accidentally in the following manner:—

About six months, ago as I was at breakfast, one of my servants observed a Saumpera in a neighbouring garden taking up a small quantity of earth, and smelling it, and in this manner proceeding from spot to spot, until at length (it may be presumed) judging from some peculiar scent that a Snake was near, he took a small metal pipe about the length of a man's finger which he applied occasionally with one hand to his mouth, making therewith a piping noise, whilst he kept beating upon a small drum with the other hand, reciting at intervals a metrical incantation, by them denominated *Munter*. He had not been long engaged thus before a Snake of the *Gokura* species made its appearance, betraying evident signs of the power of the spell over it; for it suffered the man to approach it without in the least degree attempting to bite him. But it seems, that he had between his fingers the root of a plant, the smell or sight of which stupified the Snake and deprived it of all power of motion. The Saumpera seeing my servant observing him, brought the Snake with him, and accompanied the servant to my house. When the circumstance was made known to me, I came out into the garden, glad of the opportunity to satisfy myself of a fact, of which I had heard much, but believed little.

To return from this digression: I found that the man had hold of the Snake directly below the head, at the first vertebrae of the neck; so that it was physically impossible whilst he continued his hold, that the Snake could bite him. Suspicious of some deception I went close up to him, and made him shew me that the Snake had its fangs; which he readily did, by squeezing the reptile somewhat roughly, so as to cause it to open its mouth, when I perceived that its fangs had not been extracted.* The man then, muttering something to himself by way of charm, drew a circle round himself with the root above referred to, when sitting down upon the ground he let the Snake loose, bidding me not to fear as it could not go beyond the limits of the circle. I placed myself at about a foot's distance from the line marked out, directly in front of the Snake; which seeing me, erected its *chukker* (a circular mark on the head most beautifully delineated) and hissing angrily, approached me. Notwithstanding this was the first time I had seen a spectacle of this nature, yet I had beholden enough to give me confidence in the man's art, and therefore stood firm, although my legs were undefended, being at the time dressed in pa-jamahs with Hindoostanee pa-posh on my feet. The event however proved the correctness of the judgment which I had formed of the efficacy of the charm; for the Snake had not seem-

ingly the power to pass beyond the limits assigned to it, as it remained stationary betraying evident signs of impatience. The man, in order to irritate it the more, gave it three or four severe jerks by the tail, which diverting its attention from me caused it to turn round upon him with the intention of biting him. It made three or four attacks upon him for that purpose, but was frustrated in every attempt by the man's putting the root before-mentioned upon its head. He afterwards put the Snake under his foot, and extracted from the back part of its head two brilliantly shining globes about the bigness of a pea, in appearance like to round worms, called by the Natives *Kilnee*, the possession of which is highly coveted by many of them, from a superstitious opinion that whoever possesses one of these worms is certain of obtaining the favor of Luchmee the Goddess of Wealth; but prevalent as this opinion is among the illiterate Moosulmauns and Hindoos, the man himself did not seem to place much confidence in their wealth-attracting power, since he sold them almost immediately for a few annas worth of copper money, rightly judging that a little money in hand is better than a greater sum in vague expectation.

The man afterwards put the Snake into an earthen vessel which I gave to him, covered it with the earthen cover, repeating a portion of his *Munter* at the time; and though he did not secure the cover by any bandage, the Snake remained in its confinement, not making any efforts to escape, which had it done, it must have effected, as the weight of the cover could not have proved any obstacle against the exertions of its natural strength.

In answer to my interrogations, the man informed me, that he was attached as a Snake-catcher to the Native Hospital, and and that the root with which he stupified the Snake was that of the *Jubba Phool* plant, a piece of which he gave to me, and which I inclose for the inspection of all those who may desire to see it. He further told me that the expressed juice of the green root taken inwardly with an equal quantity of the juice of Ginger is with them an infallible remedy for the poison of the Reptile.* The accuracy of this information I was willing to take solely upon his authority, not having an inclination to put the Medicine to the test, by a trial of its efficacy upon my own person; but should any of your Readers feel inclined for a practical experiment of its virtues, I doubt not but they may very easily find opportunity so to do, and that to their heart's content. For my own part, I would, in case of necessity, rather depend upon the actual cautery conjoined with the internal exhibition of an alkaline solution prepared from sal ammoniac and quick-lime.

I know that many well informed persons dispute the existence of any such art as that here described; and though I was myself inclined to question its power to the extent which I had often heard pretended, yet I deemed it more consistent to suspend a decision upon the subject, until I had at least some sufficient data either for acknowledging its existence, or for rejecting it altogether as a deceptions artifice practiced by the more wily, upon the easy credulity of the more ignorant part of mankind. But as I have seen an ocular proof that there are men to be found in this country who possess the skill to charm Serpents, I can therefore readily assent to the assertions of Bruce upon this head; who has, merely from the want of a similar demonstration, been accused of availing himself of the privilege of a Traveller,—that of dealing in the marvellous.

A JUNGUL ADEM.

* All poisonous Snakes have but one row of teeth seated in the upper jaw, with two fangs situated in a position nearly similar to that of the canine teeth in all carnivorously feeding animals. They are not fixed in the gum, but are suspended by a flexible membrane. The poison being in the hollow of the gum, when the reptile bites an object the lower jaw pressing against the intermediate object, forces the tooth upwards, which causes the poison to trickle down the fangs and enter the puncture, in a manner similar to the introduction of the vaccine virus by inoculation.

* The juice of this root, I have good reason for believing, is poisonous, that of the Ginger being its corrective. We know for a fact that a metallic poison is a remedy for one animal poison, namely Mercury for the Syphilitic; but how it acts has not well been ascertained. It would therefore, in my humble opinion, be a subject worthy the investigation of the Faculty, how a vegetable poison operates in counteracting the violence of so deadly a poison as that of the one in question. Whether it acts by exciting an unusual degree of fermentation in the blood which enables it to throw of the morbid matter of the venom absorbed by the lymphatics consequent to the bite of a Snake, or in what other way it operates, is a desideratum not hitherto ascertained.

Great Fools—Good Fellows—Brutes.

SIR,

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

As I have in several instances observed that you do not despise the communications of Female Correspondents, presuming on your indulgence, I have taken the liberty to trouble you with a few observations on a subject of very considerable interest to the Society of British India.

Among the many "minor miseries of life" I know none more painful or more frequently experienced by intelligent Females in this country, than the being condemned in every party and at every hour to listen to long disquisitions upon individuals with whom they have no connection or acquaintance, and the being utterly excluded from all rational or general conversation. From the conversation of my own sex, I am ashamed and sorry to confess, there is little prospect of gaining either pleasure or instruction; the whole of the day being spent in scandal, and nice dissertations upon the ranks of their respective Husbands, or the boldness and ill-breeding of some poor *Subaltern's Wife*, who allowed herself to be handed to table before the *Captain's Lady*. Such unwarrantable conduct, of course, excites just indignation; but I cannot help thinking that it is generally dwelt upon with more consideration than the insignificance of the object of animadversion altogether merits, among people of more exalted rank and consequence.

It is equally astonishing, how contracted is the conversation of a circle of old Indian Officers, who meet together for no other earthly purpose than to oppress Nature with unrequired and consequently unwholesome food; or to talk of who has got or will get such and such an appointment, who has gone to the Presidency, and has left it; who is near promotion, and who is gone home. In putting and hearing such queries and their replies, the time is too often spent, which should have been devoted to general and entertaining conversation, in which young and old, male and female would be able to join. I would not have you conclude, that I am disapproving of professional knowledge; far from it. A Soldier should make himself acquainted with every thing and every body, as far as such information is likely to prove of service to him in the discharge of his military duties. What I would express is, that there is no necessity or propriety in his confining his conversation or knowledge to those topics; for in my humble opinion no character is so disgusting and tedious in mixed society as that of a professional gentleman: I mean one who has no idea out of his profession, and is for ever thrusting his knowledge upon every company, at every season, and at every place, like Dr. Frend's pedantic School-master, who

"Throughout his whole life pursued the same track

"And in company carried the School at his back.

It might be observed with POPE that

"The proper study of mankind is man;"

and that such frequent dissertations on individuals would infallibly lead to the minute investigation and accurate knowledge of mankind at large. But this is by no means the case. All judgement must be the result of comparison and reflection; and when the intellect is thus confined and contracted in its general powers, and unblest with the light of general knowledge, how can it be expected to acquire just notions on the varied and mysterious compounds of good and evil which form the characters of men? Such knowledge cannot possibly be acquired, nor is it even aimed at, by those who listen to the humdrum details of old Qui-Hi's. With them a man is either dogmatically pronounced a *Great Fool*, a *Good Fellow*, or a *Brute*. These, in their minds, are the three grand and distinct classifications of the human character.

With regard to the latter, as it requires but little penetration to discover (for a man must be a palpable *Brute* indeed who is so designated in India,) they are I think generally pretty correct. But let us consider the common definition of a *Good Fellow*. "Do you know Jack T——?" No.—"I am sorry for that, for he is a capital good fellow. I must confess that he is not over punctual in the payment of his debts, draws rather a long bow,

and will take you in if he can. But, by Jove! he gives good dinners, and is generous in the extreme; in a word, I am convinced no one has a better or warmer heart than Jack T.——"

In the first place, we are informed that this *Good Fellow* has neither honor nor honesty; in the second place, he gives dinners which are not paid for; thirdly, his generosity is with other people's money;—and lastly his good-heartedness is a quality which allows him to feed his own pride and ostentation at the expense of a poor suffering Tradesman. Verily this is a *Good Fellow*! There is no character which is oftener drawn, and yet we see with what desecration. Now the *Great Fool* is a character quite opposite to the *Good Fellow*; inasmuch as he is silly, and mean enough to live within his income and pay his debts;—he is perhaps silent in company, and easily taken in; one whose true generosity of heart has prevented his conceiving or suspecting the duplicity and falsehood of mankind, and is therefore too apt to imagine that those who talk a great deal about honor, really possess it; and to crown all, he is even simple enough in purchasing a horse; bungalow, or any other necessary from a brother Officer to trust implicitly to his word of honor. And yet am I obliged to confess that I not only know such a man, but most cordially esteem and respect him.

I feel confident, Sir, that you who, have so much the interests and improvement of the British Indian community at heart, will not refuse a place in your excellent Paper to this humble mite, offered at the shrine of good breeding and morality; and in the humble but sincere hope that it may lead to further reflections on subject so essential to the happiness and intellectual improvement of British Indian Society.

I am, Mr. Editor, your's sincerely,

Bandah, January 1822.

JEMIMA HOPEWELL.

Proclamation.

In the name of his Majesty George the Fourth, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, King Defender of the Faith.

CEYLON, JANUARY 26, 1822.

We the Honorable Major General Sir Edward Barnes, Knight, Commander of the most Honorable Military Order of the Bath, Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief in and over the British Settlements and Territories in the Island of Ceylon with the Dependencies thereof; do hereby proclaim and command, that whenever any man, woman, or child, shall come to his or her death, in the Kandyan Provinces, by violence, accident, or of a sudden, or unexpectedly; or the body of any such person shall be found dead without its being known how such person came by his or her death; it shall be binding on every person who may first discover the same, to make known the circumstance immediately, to the nearest Agent of Government, Chief or headman of a district, village, or department.

And such Chief or Headman shall forthwith repair to the spot where the dead body is, and make diligent enquiry to discover the cause of the death of the deceased and to trace and apprehend any person or persons who may be charged or suspected of having caused the said death; and shall also, within an hour from receiving the information, report the circumstance to the nearest Agent of Government and await his orders as to the disposal of the corpse.

And the Agent of Government to whom such information is conveyed, shall go to the spot himself, except it be above forty miles distance from his residence; and shall, if the deceased shall be an European or Burgher or a native soldier or camp follower or native of the maritime Provinces, summon a jury of at least nine Europeans and Burghers, if it is possible to do so, and proceed in their presence, to enquire by evidence and otherwise, on the view of the body unless it is beyond the distance above stated; into the cause of the death of the deceased, and shall record the evidence, and the finding of the Jury or of the majority thereof, as to the cause and manner of the death of the deceased, and by whom it was occasioned, and send the same, signed by himself and the Jurors, to the Judicial Commissioner in Kandy, and use every means in his power to apprehend any person charged or suspected of having caused the death of the deceased.

If it is impossible to assemble a Jury of Europeans and Burghers, the enquiry into the cause of the death shall be conducted by and before the Agent himself; who shall record his own opinion and transmit the same and the evidence as before directed.

If the deceased be a Candyan, the Agent shall call in three or five Native Chiefs or Headmen as assessors, if procurable immediately, to take the inquest afore directed.

And no dead body found under the circumstances herein first mentioned shall be buried, burnt or otherwise put aside, without the previous sanction of the nearest Agent of Government.

And any Chief, Headman or other person contravening, or neglecting to obey this Proclamation, shall be liable to fine and Imprisonment.

Given at Colombo in the said Island of Ceylon, the twenty-fourth day of January, in the year of Our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty-two.

By the Lieutenant Governor's Command.

(Signed) GEORGE LUSIGNAN, Sec. Kand. Provs.

GOD SAVE THE KING.

Sporting Query.

SIR, To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

Your report of Calcutta Races, would be more complete and convey considerable interest to myself and other lovers of the Sport: If you would be good enough, through the medium of your JOURNAL, to acquaint us with the meaning of the different Initial Letters descriptive of the length of the Heats run for; this clue once afforded, would in future enable us to form some judgment on the comparative speed of your Horses and those on our side of India.

Your humble Servant,

Camp Deesa, on Banks of Bunnass, }
Roor, January 10, 1822. }

A SUBSCRIBER.

Note.—We shall be indebted to any of the Amateurs of the Turf who will communicate the Intelligence required.—ED.

Sterne's Last Letter.

Sterne's Last Letter to Eliza,—which has never before been published.

In the last page I was writing about my Tomb:—how it happened then to slide into my thoughts. I cannot tell, unless as the idea of Eliza always softens my heart, it is thereby rendered more open to tender and solemn reflections. But now indeed it is become a natural, and obvious subject. It is, I believe, just before me, and ere I have taken many more weary steps, I may drop into its cold bosom; for from what I feel and know of myself, I am not long for this world.

About ten days ago, another blood vessel burst, and it was with great difficulty that nature could be sustained in life. So weakened am I by this blow, that if I should receive another before winter is over, it will be my last fall, and there will be an end of poor Yorick!

In this situation, and with these expectations, I comfort myself with a reflection which I would recommend to thee for thy comfort under any of the calamities of life or apprehensions of its end,—that we are in the hands of a wise and faithful being, who knows when to give, and when to take away.

I send thee this information concerning myself that you may know the truth, and be prepared for the shock of my death, which if it should be sudden (as it is most likely it will be) might be attended with very fatal consequences to a frame so nicely fibred as thine. My pen moves very heavily, as thou must perceive, Eliza, and I know not how I shall trail it to the bottom of my paper.

All-gracious Power! that can give strength to the weak, make firm my feeble knees, which I can scarce bend to ask a blessing of thee—oh! strengthen me, for I am weak, and my heart is cold within me; warm, enliven, illuminate it at this hour, and then if it be thy will let it become cold for ever!

I would fain write to thee Eliza at this time with more than usual power, though whatever comes from a death-bed must carry an awful importance with it, and I could wish you would consider me as reclining on mine, and attend to what I shall write as the fond counsel of my dying spirit.

If I die, I well know, and I fetch a deep sigh as I write it, I shall leave thee in a very comfortless state, and surrounded with many discouraging circumstances; but there is help to be had if thou wilt rightly ask it of that kind Being, who ever looks with an eye of pity upon the wretched, and will hear and grant their petitions.

Thou hast, I fear, many enemies.—They have already bowed thee down to the earth, and who knows but they may renew the blow, and prevent thy ever raising up thy head again. But there is One who is mightier than they, and he will relieve thee from the cruel hand of the oppressor if thou wilt trust in him. And that you may do, my child, as thou ought, read the Scriptures. Study their

divine truth, and practise the patience and resignation that are strongly enforced in every page of them. Fortify thy mind with what is there recorded of their sufferings of whom the world was not worthy. In the weakness and misgivings of thy mind have recourse to earnest prayer and supplication, and it will ease thy pains, and be a balm to thy wounds—smiles will return to thy countenance, and comfort to thy heart.

And as an encouragement, my dearest Eliza, to tread in the paths of piety, keep thine eye upon that state of being whither they will conduct thee: this will set thee at ease with respect to the troubles of life, however severe and poignant they may be.

Tho' friends prove false, and enemies triumph, tho' poverty should lay her chilling hand upon thee, and misfortune riot in thy undoing, look forward: there is but a little way to go; and tho' it may be covered with thorns, have courage; the pain will soon be over; and thy happiness secured upon a foundation against which the powers of darkness will not prevail.

As for thy children, deserve thy self the favor of Heaven, and thou wilt thereby secure its blessing and protection for them; and tho' thou art at one end of this world, and they at the other, the God in whom you trust will be merciful to all of you; for he has created unnumbered worlds, and his eye comprehends and overlooks them all.

Let me therefore recommend to my dear Disciple, to cultivate a constant awful sense of God's mercies, which will lead thee to deserve, and in the end receive them. For this purpose make it a law, not to be superseded by any consideration to pass some part of every day alone. This must be in your power, and I charge my dearest Friend by every thing that is dear to her, never to omit a practice so full of profit and consolation. Bear this Letter, or a copy of it, always about you, read it every day of your life, and then retire to your chamber and be still: there commune with your own heart, and then let your heart commune with that great Being to whom it is accountable for its most secret thoughts: He knows them all, and will ere long reward or condemn thee for them. At the awful bar of eternal justice, you and I, Eliza, and all the rest of the world must appear to receive the sentence which will then be pronounced by Unerring Wisdom: I shall then be judged for the contents of this Letter; and then you must answer for your obedience or neglect of its counsels.

This, my Friend, is truth, awful and important truth. I cannot be deceived: every vain and sportive thought has taken wing, and fled away. I cannot now dissemble: death may be at my very gates—in a few moments perhaps he may be at my chamber door, and ere I can write an eternal adieu, the pale Messenger may have executed his commission, and Yorick be numbered with the dead. Under these awful impressions, you may believe what I now write cannot proceed from the flow of passion or the looser flights of fancy, but a serious view of sublimity nature, and a future world. Dissimulation now drops her mask: the gay and airy trappings of wit and fancy are set aside, and every thing stands naked in the sight of that eye, which looks down upon the grave, where it expects every moment to be closed for ever.

One thing I had forgotten: indeed it is of the utmost importance, and right glad am I it has not escaped me. You are gone to India in obedience to the commands of your Husband. This is your duty, and you have fulfilled it: but you must not stop there. If he treats thee well, which I trust he will, return his kindness with gratitude. If it should be possible for him to neglect or insult thee, teach him by thy patience to use thee better. If that should fail, still continue to persevere in the line of duty: for it will be an honor, and a comfort to thee; and tho' much sorrow may attend thee in the discharge of it, conspicuous virtue and approving Heaven will be thy supports.

Remember Eliza that thy Husband is the Father of thy Children: this thought will beget patience, that modest gentlest virtue; and patience assisted by hope will turn the tide of sorrow from thine eye, and give many a pleasing thought to thy heart.

Nothing further I believe remains for me, my dear—I have not omitted any thing I hope which can be material for thee to know and consider—If it should please Heaven to spare me yet longer, such sentiments and instructions as these can never be out of season. But if I should pass the gate of death, consider them as the tender and sincere benediction of one who loved thee so well, that in his last moments the thoughts of a better world were for a while suspended, in order to direct thee how to attain it.

If then I should never see thee more—eternally Adieu—

Oh! my Eliza, cherish the remembrance of thy Friend, and prove thy love of him by following the dying instructions which he bequeaths thee. Do this, and perhaps my death may teach thee more wisdom than my whole life would have done; tho' I should live to see my grey hairs, and to rest my feeble age for support, on thee, and on thy children.

Once more then, and for the last time, fare thee well; I shall continue to bless thee while I live, and may my last blessing rest on thee forever!—Amen.

ASIATIC DEPARTMENT.

—537—

Indian News.

Ackbarpoor, Oude.—Letters from the Camp, Burdgon, in the District of Ackbarpoor, Oude, dated February 10, 1822, state that Major Faithfull's Detachment, consisting of one Squadron of the 1st Light Cavalry under Lieutenant White, the 2nd Battalion of the 4th Native Infantry under Captain Andrée, 5 Companies of the 2nd Battalion of the 9th Native Infantry under Captain Nind, and a Train of Artillery consisting of 4 eighteen pounders and 4 eight inch mortars under Lieutenant Dickson, arrived before the fortified Village of Burdgon on the morning of the 9th of February. Major Faithfull went close to the place with the view of parleying with the Garrison, but was fired on from the parties within it. The 18-pounders being at hand, were brought up to within 4 or 500 yards of the place, and three or four rounds of grape fired from them on the Village. A spot was soon after selected for the 8-inch mortars, and a breastwork of fascines thrown up to protect the men from the matchlock fire of the place. The mortars were in battery by 10 o'clock, and the bombardment opened about 2. These produced such sensible effect that by sun-set the whole of the Village was in flames: and the Garrison evacuated it about 2 P. M. when the assailants took possession.

On the examination of the works on the following morning, they were found to be stronger than had been at first anticipated. Besides several houses loop-holed all round, there were on the East and on the West side of the valley two strong Redoubts or Forts. The one to the East, which was the strongest of the two, consisted of a large loop-holed dwelling on the inside; beyond this a Rownee, or outer fort of 20 or 30 feet broad, having a breastwork of from 6 to 7 feet; and beyond this again a wide and deep ditch filled with prickly jungle; the whole forming a fortification of no mean strength. It is supposed that the Garrison suffered severely from the effects of the bombardment; but the loss of the assailing party was very trifling, being only one Sepoy mortally wounded, and one Bombardier and one Lascar of the Artillery severely wounded. This, it appears, is but the first of a series of reductions of forts and villages that are in contemplation, as the writer says, "We have still much more on our hands."

If the object for which this Expedition was undertaken, were more clearly unfolded to us, we might rejoice in this first instance of its success;—but from all that we yet know of the affairs of Oude, we rather regret that the British name should be associated with deeds which do not appear to us calculated to reflect honor on the policy of any cabinet, or the execution of them to add lustre to our arms. Wherever our Soldiers are sent they are sure to do their duty gallantly; but he is the true friend of their reputation and their glory, who desires to see justice associated with bravery, and valour consecrated and ennobled by its union with a pure and holy cause. It would afford us much satisfaction to see occasionally a practical illustration of that admirable maxim, "If our motives of action are worthy, it must be wise to render them intelligible throughout an Empire our hold on which is Opinion:" and as we think the maxim itself as politic as it is liberal, we are persuaded that the motives of this Government being in general worthy, a more frequent and explicit avowal of them would remove much of the odium, which, from the vague conjectures that are indulged on subjects unwisely kept in the dark, is no doubt often attached to actions that if made intelligible by explanation would appear to us altogether in a different light.

Letters from Madras.—Letters from Madras communicate the painful intelligence of the death of Major Molloy, Military Secretary to the Commander in Chief at that Presidency. It is stated that while taking his usual ride on the Mount Road he lost the footing of one of his stirrups, and in endeavouring to regain it the Horse feeling the spur, started off into a gallop, when he lost his seat, and was thrown. Falling upon his skull, the injury received from the wound was so great that he survived only about an hour after the accident. Major Wetherall of the Royal Scots is spoken of as likely to succeed to the vacant Secretaryship.

Madras, February 7, 1822.—His Excellency the Honorable Sir HENRY BLACKWOOD embarked on Saturday afternoon under the customary honors, when the Flag Ship, with the CURLEW and SATELLITE got under weigh for Trincomalie. The ADMIRAL, it is understood proceeds from Trincomalie to the Malabar Coast and Bombay. The 90-Gun Ship, the GANGES, lately launched, is now fitting in the harbour, for her voyage to England, and His Excellency intends to inspect her previously to her departure.

The Ship EAST INDIAN, Captain Roy, from Rangoon the 24th of December, and the Schooner HIGHLAND LASS, Captain Eaton, from Coringa, arrived in the Roads on Tuesday evening.

Passenger, by the EAST INDIAN:—Mrs. Lanish. By the HIGHLAND LASS:—Mr. Conwell.

The homeward bound Ship WILLIAM MILES, Captain Beadle, from Calcutta the 23d ultimo, arrived in the roads, yesterday.

G. J. Hadgw. Esq. came Passenger on the Ship DAVID CLARKE, from China.

We lament to state that Major MOLLOY, Military Secretary to His Excellency the Commander in Chief, was killed on Monday evening last by a fall from his Horse. An accident as sudden in its effects, as it is melancholy, and which has deprived the community at the Presidency of an esteemed and valuable member. His Remains were interred on Tuesday afternoon in St. George's Burial Ground, with every mark of attention and esteem for his memory.

In the Supplement of Tuesday we gave a statement of the serious affray in the Canton River, and notwithstanding the people of Lintin appear to make no distinction between a party from a Man of War and one from a private Ship, the Chinese Authorities at Canton probably will, as they have heretofore generally done—and that we shall find no permanent serious consequences as relates to the Trade had resulted from this unfortunate occurrence,—although the Chinese Laws appear to be so strict and unalterable—but this, if we may judge from former occurrences, seems to be more where the offending party is weak, and where rich security merchants are implicated.

After the foregoing was prepared for the Press, we learned by the arrival of the DAVID CLARK, that the Trade had not been authoritatively stopped at the date of her departure, and that it was not known at the time, what would be the determination of the Viceroy. Trade, however, it seems, had been at a stand for a few days, for which some excuse was alleged quite unconnected with the Lintin affray—the Chinese it appears, acknowledge that one man had been killed, and four or five badly wounded.

The Siamese, we learn by this arrival, were peaceably disposed towards us—they have not invaded our territory on the Queda shore, where there is hardly a guard—All apprehension of an attack on Penang appears now to be over—and indeed seems to be considered by many, as groundless from the beginning.

A smart shock of an Earthquake appears to have been felt at no great distance to the Westward on the 29th ultimo at about 1 o'clock P. M. The following are communications from Correspondent upon the subject of this occurrence.

Chittoor, January 29, 1822.—The shock of an Earthquake has just been felt at this station—To the writer of this, the noise appeared like that of large stones rolling along the roof of the house from East to West; and he cannot better convey an idea of the sensation he experienced than by comparing it to what must be familiar to all, the vibratory motion occasioned by a heavy carriage passing rapidly along a narrow paved street.

He finds on comparing notes with some of his friends, that one distinctly felt his chair to move under him,—another says the tiled roof of his house has been so much disturbed, that day light now makes its appearance in several places; and a third, who has not much reason to confide in the strength of his roof, actually took to his heels in the utmost trepidation.

The shock occurred exactly at one P. M. Thermometer at the time 80°. The sky was cloudless and a gentle breeze blowing.

from the N. E.—The air has been delightfully cool for some time past.

Vellore, Jan. 31, 1822.—Phenomena which bring into dispute the stability of the great Creation present a topic for knowledge which it is presumed will be no less interesting to the whole of your Readers, than it will prove to those Philosophers, whom the knowledge of facts alone enable to form conclusions, which may lead to important discoveries, and to the elucidation of mysteries, the most awful to mankind.

It thus becomes the pleasing duty of every individual who may conceive it to be in his power, to furnish information of the above tendency; which conclusion must plead an apology for my addressing you on this occasion, and which I trust the following true narration will render satisfactory.

On the 20th instant, at about 10 minutes before one o'clock P. M. a considerable shock of an Earthquake was heard and felt at this station, an awful rumbling noise like that of distant thunder seemed to vibrate through the empty bowels of the Earth in a direction from S. E. by S. to the north of Vellore, and which continued for about 10 minutes—a concussion of the atmosphere was at the same time felt.—The Houses shook, broken tiles and dust fell into the Rooms where occupants stood amazed until reflection too well justified their suspicion of the awful cause.—When many removed from one apartment to another (until it ceased) apparently in wild suspense.—The natives immediately knew it to be an Earthquake, and the Old Inhabitants affirm that a similar one was felt at this station some years ago with the exception that the rumbling then seemed to proceed in an opposite direction.—*Madras Government Gazette.*

Futtyghur.—February 2, 1822.—It is notified for the information of travellers passing between Futtyghur and Cawnpore, that the road is at present more infested by thieves, than for many years past, particularly near Jellalabad, Goorsanagunge, and Khodagunge.—The predatory itinerants now so busily engaged, seem to have a chain of communication from the confines of the pious village of Beetoor, to the malignant and vindictive* Kially's Nuddjee.

That the Officers of the present well organised Police will soon clear the country of these midnight marauders there can be no doubt, and in the meantime travellers will act wisely by placing every article they may not immediately require under charge of a sufficient guard during the night. Chokeedars are readily procured at every village from the Police Thanadars, and a few annas nightly expended, may preserve property, which if stolen, might not be replaced for considerable sums. A young Officer lately proceeding with a party of Gentlemen from Cawnpore to join his Regiment, lost all the Wearing Apparel he had, and but for the kindness of friends would have been obliged, wrapped in a blanket, to make a fakeer-like pilgrimage to the place of his destination. A Gentleman of the same party was robbed of his travelling equipment of Silver Articles, but the thief being taken, and subjected to martial law, was by the smart and terror of the lash soon obliged to give up his furtive booty. He restored the Silver Spoons beat and cut to pieces and carried away as good a flogging as he could well stand under. The *quid pro quo* was nevertheless promptly or efficaciously given.—*Hurkaru.*

* If therefore the Traveller escape at one village, the Rogues attack him at another. Having an eye upon the road, like the jolly thieves of East Cheap, whose object was plunder though obtained in a different manner from that of our modern Chores. These fellows have the cunning of Rats, and at nibbling are equally persevering. For if driven away five times, they will return again with caution to their prey.

Passengers.

Passengers per EDWARD STRETTILL, from Bombay to Bengal.—Mrs. Balston and two Children.

Passenger per COUNTESS OF LONDON, from Bombay for the Eastward.—Mrs. H. Seely.

Barney McLeary's Epistle.

SIR, To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal,

Kitty and I, (you know Kitty, the daughter of the late Mr. Coffin, Upholsterer and Undertaker in the Durrumtollah, to whose business I have succeeded at your service,) were seated the other morning at Breakfast, she sipping her tea and I, as usual, with the CALCUTTA JOURNAL in my hand, helping her to the dishes which composed your intellectual treat, when what should I cast my eyes upon, but the letter of your Correspondent ANNA MARIA DONOVAN:—

Och! Botheration and Smut! what do ye think now, Mr. Editor? She's my foster-sister: didn't the same mother suckle us; and often, when children, have we wander'd o'er the mountains, and tumbled over the rocks, and plucked the heath flowers together, and sunk in the Bogs of the fertile plains of Tipperary. I am freezing with indignation to think that her father's daughter should be used, the *darling*, in this manner. Och! if the old gentleman knew it! he's as brave as a lion: did n't he shoot Dennis Blake of the County Galway in 1796, for saying he turned his toes in at the 'Size Ball. He's a ferocissimus *pultus*, as a body may say; and so jealous of the honor of his family, and well he may be, for it's one of the greatest in the country, (he having 21 children) and as old as the hills. I need not remind a man of your poetical reading of the words of that beautiful song:

O'Hara, O'Mara, O'Morven, O'More,
O'Donovan, Arran, M'Millan, Gillore;
All houses so noble, so worthy, so old,
One drop of their blood is worth ounces of gold.

The father is very particular, so he is, what connexions his children make. He wouldn't let his eldest son, Patrick O'Hara Donovan, Esq. A. M. at Trinity College Dublin, marry Miss Daly at Castle Grange. The reason *why* was kept a great secret; but it was reported in Morven's-town that it was because a *Ben. Sinister* was found in her arms; but I don't believe a word of it, for there never was a more proper, well-conducted modest young lady in the world. But the old man was positive, and the devil a wife did Donovan get!

Tell the little Jewel that as long as Barney McLeary has eight Annas in the world, her father's daughter is welcome over and over again to one Rupee of it, and as for that old — her Aunt, if she would but send her to me, it's I that would undertake to quiet her. Poor Anny (we always call'd her Anny) says her Aunt is *high-up* in society here. She ought to be "high up," bad luck to her! somewhere else, for treating the "Emerald Gem of the Western World" so cruelly; but, *hang her*, I won't be unchristian, for the Bishop (God bless him!) says we ought to return good for evil, and therefore, if you please, we'll drop the subject.

I was going to give Miss Anny a bit of advice, if she would excuse the liberty from her old play-fellow Barney, but I won't—You'll probably ask me "*Cur linguam cohibes?*" to which I will answer, "*Quia locatum fuisse me, aliquando, qanitiut, lacuisse non-quam.*" However I'll consider a little, and if she is really now in distress, I will speak my mind, let the consequences be what they may. I am, Mr. Editor, Your constant Reader and Friend,

Durrumtullah, Feb. 18, 1822.

BARNEY McLEARY.

P. S. You will be, no doubt surprised at my *larning*: my mother always said I was a Genius, and eight-pence a week I flatter myself, you'll allow, was not thrown away. I certainly did not go to Father O'Leary's Grammar School for nothing. By the bye, I saw something of a Mr. JOHN BULL's dying a natural death, in your Paper a few days ago: are you acquainted with the Executors? and can you get me the job? I'll transmit his manes to mother Earth in style (a pretty idea), and if his friends don't fill the Mourning Coaches, I bought Kitty, (you know Kitty) the other day, a black crape gown, and she and I will be most happy to fill one of the Chariots, on moderate terms. I understand he died of a *type-us* fever: but as there is no proof of the fact, when a man's in his winding-sheet, it is neither fair nor de-

licate to press the manner of his death on the attention of the Public. His friends, no doubt, to keep the memory of his virtues green, will inscribe a column to his memory.

N. B. I do a little in the "storied urn" way also.

John Bull on the China Trade.

SIR,

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

One would suppose the new Editor of JOHN BULL had been asleep during the last four years, when we see him declaring that he does not consider *Politics* to be the principal ingredient in a *Calcutta Newspaper*, and that its main object ought to be to convey the earliest information on the private studies and pursuits with which Gentlemen amuse their leisure hours, and the most authentic intelligence on curious questions of ancient and modern Oriental Literature. A few months will probably convince him that we have been too long accustomed to a more substantial regimen, to consent to be drenched with his slop-pails of milk and water. He must reform this altogether before he can be accounted a fit representative of JOHN BULL in the East.

Not only does he give us "very little obtrusion of his own particular notions, and very little intervention of general disquisition," but that little is good for nothing. I pass by, for the present, his defence of the Constitutional Association (ominous of what is to come from the same quarter on similar topics,) and restrict myself to his "particular notions" on the China Trade, which he extends to the length of seven lines of his narrow column, as follows: "These documents (regarding the punishment of several Opium Ships in the Heavenly Empire,—*tantane animis CELESTIUS ira?*) tend we think in a considerable degree, to substantiate the Evidence, lately given in the House of Commons by CHARLES GRANT, on the policy of uniting the China Trade under one head. The sentiments of the Court of Directors themselves on this important subject may be worth attending to."

These sentiments are, the old story about Chinese despotism, jealousy, and caprice; American prudence and sobriety; English insolence and riotousness; inimitable management of the Select Committee; unparalleled fleet of Chinamen, &c. &c. &c. Now the facts contained in Mr. Grant's Evidence might all be conceded without much affecting the question as to the justness of his inferences and the soundness of his opinions; and how they can be SUBSTANTIATED by the late occurrences in China respecting a branch of contraband trade not comprehended within the Company's monopoly, can only be understood by those who see the connection between the name of *Stoney Stratford* and the accident which happened to the traveller at that place. Because smugglers of Opium get into scrapes, it does not follow that free traders in Tea would get into similar difficulties. Mr. Grant admitted that England got less for her exports to China, and gave more for her imports, than she would do under a free trade; but this he contended was an *advantage*, and this is the part of his Evidence which the Editor of JOHN BULL is bound to justify. The Directors indeed think, that "the present importations of Tea are as large as the Country requires." Universal England drinketh as much Tea as she wishes, and would not drink another cup if it were given gratuitously.

Among other things we are told that "the Company's Agents frequently submit to caprices and humiliations, to which the honour of a Sovereign would not allow any representative of his to yield." Are we then to understand that a King of England is sole judge of adequate causes of war and conditions of peace; that the Company are an independent, insulated, autocratic body, and not Representatives of the English Government and nation; or that being such Representatives they are as so many *âmes damnées* to take upon themselves unlimited disgrace without compromising the honour of the English nation? Such are the sentiments which JOHN BULL (himself the *soi-disant* Representative of "British character at large") thinks not only "worth attending to," but as we must infer, worth respecting and adopting.

February 20, 1822.

PROBE.

Order Respecting Suttee es.

(Republished by Desire.)

The Commander of the Forces desires that Copy of these Instructions be circulated from the Brigade Office to the Posts and Stations dependent upon your Command.

Presidency of Fort William, }
February 23, 1822.

(Signed) G. H. FAGAN,
Adjutant General.

Whereas it has appeared that during the Ceremony denominated Suttee, (at which Hindoo Women burn themselves) certain acts have been occasionally committed, in direct opposition to the rules laid down in the religious institutes of the Hindoos, by which that practice is authorized, and forbidden in particular cases: as for instance at several places pregnant Women, and Girls not yet arrived at their full age have been burnt alive, and people after having intoxicated Women by administering intoxicating substances, have burnt them without their assent whilst insensible; and in as much as this conduct is contrary to the Shasters, and perfectly inconsistent with every principle of humanity, (it appearing from the expositions of the Hindoo Law delivered by Pundits, that the burning a Woman pregnant or one having a Child of tender years, or a Girl not yet arrived at full age, is expressly forbidden in the Shasters, and also that the intoxicating a Woman for the purpose of burning her, and the burning one without her assent or against her will, is highly illegal and contrary to established usage,) the Police Darogahs are hereby accordingly, under the sanction of Government, strictly enjoined to use the utmost care and make every effort to prevent the forbidden practices abovementioned from taking place within the limits of their Thannahs, and they are further required on all occasions immediately on receiving intelligence that this Ceremony is likely to occur, either themselves to proceed to the spot or send their Mohirrir or Jemadar, accompanied by a Burkundaz of the Hindoo Religion, to learn of the Woman who is to be burnt, whether she has given her assent, and ascertain the other particulars abovementioned relative to her age, &c. &c. &c. In the event of the Female who is going to be burnt being less than 16 years of age, or there being signs of her pregnancy, or on her declaring herself in that situation, or should the people be preparing to burn her after having intoxicated her without her assent or against her will (the burning a Woman under any of these circumstances being in direct opposition to what is enjoined in the Shasters, and manifestly an act of illegal violence), it will be then their duty to prevent the Ceremony thus forbidden and contrary to established usage from taking place, and require those prepared to perform it to refrain from so doing; also to explain to them that in the event of their persisting to commit an act forbidden, they would involve themselves in a crime, and become subject to retribution and punishment; but in the case of the Woman being of full age, and no other impediment existing, they will nevertheless remain on the spot, and not allow the most minute particular to escape observation; and in the case of people preparing to burn a Woman by compulsion, or after having made her insensible by administering Spirituous Liquors or Narcotic Drugs, it will be then their duty to exert themselves in restraining them; and at the same time to let them know that it is not the intention of the Government to check or forbid any act authorized by the tenets of the Religion of the Inhabitants of their dominions; or even to require any express leave or permission being required previously to the performance of the act of Suttee; and the Police Officers are not to interfere and prevent any such act from taking place. And lastly, it will be their duty to transmit immediately for the information of the Magistrates, a full detail of any measures which they may have adopted on this subject, and also on every occasion when within the limits of their Thannahs this Ceremony of "Suttee" may take place; the same being lawfully conducted, they will insert it in the Monthly Reports.

(Signed) G. H. FAGAN, Adjutant General.

Verses by Lady Nugent.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

SIR,
I enclose a Copy of Verses on the Tauj Muhal at Agra, by LADY NUGENT, conceiving the present an appropriate occasion for their insertion, as a Companion to the Model of that exquisite Monument of Industry, Elegance, and Art, which your Paper of Wednesday acquaints the Public is now exhibiting in Calcutta.

W. G.

ON SEEING THE TAUJ AT AGRA.

I.

Here all conspires to charm the ravish'd sight,
And fill with wonder the admiring eye;
Here splendid gems, and marble spotless white,
(That with the sun-beam and the snow might vie)
Their various beauties so commix and blend,
As Nature did to Art her best assistance lend.

II.

The stately rising dome, the burnish'd spire,
The casements that their soften'd light impart,
Each in its turn, and all alike conspire,
To strike the wond'ring eye and touch the heart;
And while, wrapt in delight, I silent gaze,
My heart to wedded love its well-earn'd tribute pays.

III.

For not alone this pile presents to me,
Proportions fair of architectural pride;
In every polish'd stone and gem I see.
All that's to love and sentiment allied;
And to the mental vision, here appear,
All the affections that the feeling mind holds dear.

IV.

The basis form'd of marble, white and pure,
Portrays the ground-work of a well-plac'd love,
Which firm thro' life unshaken shall endure,
Nor shall the hand of death that love remove;
For true affection in the tender heart,
Stands unsubdued by time, or death's unerring dart.

V.

The pale serena, modest azure blue,
Emblem of truth and love the most sincere;
The brilliant sapphire's deeper regal hue,
Tells how above all other love doth peer
The love which under Hymen's blest control,
Exalts the human mind, and dignifies the soul.

VI.

The yellow topaz speaks the anxious cares,
That ever on affection's steps attend;
And the rich diamond as it brightly glares,
Shews the high value of a real friend:
But far beyond the brightest gems are found,
Friendship and faithful love in one soft union bound.

VII.

These pearls, the tears that fond affection shed,
O'er the pale corpse of her he lov'd alone;
These rubies, precious drops that heart has bled,
For her, alas! for ever, ever gone;
And Pity's eye the tribute-pearl bestows,
While faintly through the heart the ruby-current flows.

VIII.

But see the emerald glads the tearful eye,
And offers balsam to the troubled breast,
Pointing to regions far beyond the sky,
Regions of peace, the mansions of the blest;
For Hope is e'er array'd in brightest green,
And lovely Nature too in this attire is seen.

IX.

Sweet smiling Hope, thou soother of our cares!
Thou first, best boon, to hapless mortals giv'n!
Thou, who, when miserable man despairs,
Bidst him to look for happiness in heav'n!
Whate'er of wretchedness be still my lot,
Oh! fet thy cheering ray, thy smile forsake me not.

X.

And ye blest pair, so fond, so true of heart,
Who underneath this marble mould'ring lie,
Ye who have known the agony to part,
Are now rewarded with eternal joy—
So may fond love and truth for ever rest,
And like Juhan and Tauj, eternally be blest.

Bachelor's Ball.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

SIR,

Will you have the kindness to mention that the Meeting of Bachelors, for the purpose of fixing a Day for their Ball, is unavoidably postponed till to-morrow, (THURSDAY) Evening, at four o'clock.

I am, Sir, Your most obedient Servant,

Wednesday Evening.

CŒLEBS.

NOTE.—We hear that something of an unusually gay and animating description is likely to be the result of this Meeting,—at which, of course, all the Gallantry and Spirit of the Bachelors will be displayed.—Ed.

Nautical Notices.

Madras.—The Ship WILLIAM MILES, Captain Beadle, reached Madras on the 6th instant, having been detained on her passage down the Bay by calms and light winds. The Passengers were all well, and much pleased with their Commander. She was to remain at Madras until the 9th, on which date she would take her final departure for England.

Ceylon, January 26, 1822.—The CARRON sailed for Bombay early yesterday morning—Sir Anthony and Lady Buller, and the rest of her passengers had embarked the evening before.

The four ships mentioned in our Supplement of Wednesday last as having appeared in the offing of Galle have all been accounted for, as will be seen by the shipping reports. The AHAMADIE is the dismantled ship. It appears that she sailed from Pulo Penang on the 2d instant with three hundred Malay pilgrims on board for Mecca, and that on the 12th about 50 miles to the southward of the Nicobar Islands, she fell in with heavy squalls from the N. E. one of which laid the vessel on her beam-ends, and obliged her Commander to cut away all her masts close to the deck to right the ship. Five men were washed overboard in clearing the wreck.

The Portuguese ship PHOENIX from Macao the 12th October and Penang the 11th instant, has sailed from Galle for Colombo.—Gord. Gaz.

Marriages.

On the 6th instant, at St. John's Cathedral, by the Reverend D. CORRIE, Mr. JOHN BULL, to Miss ELIZABETH SHEPPARD.

On the 18th instant, at St. John's Cathedral, by the Reverend D. CORRIE, Mr. JOHN JEREMIAH LEGAR, to Miss ISABELLA THOMAS.

Births.

On the 19th instant, Mrs. JOHN ARIS, of a Son.

On the 18th instant, Mrs. W. WARD, of a Son.

On the 17th instant, Mrs. RICHARD WILLIAMS, of a still-born Daughter.

At Dum-Dum, on the 17th instant, the Lady of Lieutenant HOGGAN, of a still-born Daughter.

At Cawnpore, on the 27th ultimo, the Lady of Captain R. C. WALKER, Supt. of Civil Buildings, of a Son.

At Sahranpore, Oude, on the 7th ultimo, the Lady of Lieutenant HOLMES, 2d Battalion 4th Regiment of Native Infantry, of a Son.

Deaths.

At Nagpore, on the 31st ultimo, Captain B. MACKINTOSH, of the Madras Artillery, and Commissary of Ordnance.

